

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 remain pending in this application. Claims 1-11 are rejected. Claim 5 is allowed. Claims 6-9 are objected to. Claims 1, 2, 6, 7 and 9 are amended herein to clarify the invention, to express the invention in alternative wording, to broaden language as deemed appropriate and to address matters of form unrelated to substantive patentability issues.

The applicants and applicants' attorney appreciate the Examiner's granting of the telephone interview conducted on December 14, 2009, and extend their thanks to the Examiner and her supervisor examiner for their time and consideration.

While no agreement was reached during this initial interview, the Examiner suggested that the structural limitations directed to the configuration of the inertial mass part relative to the catching part be incorporated in the claims, as reflected by the Interview Summary issued December 23, 2009. The Examiner indicated that she found no similar structures in the prior art uncovered in any of her searches, and believed that properly drafted claims more particularly highlighting the differences would be allowable.

Applicants' counsel subsequently faxed a set of proposed amended claims to the Examiner for informal review on January 18, 2010, and later discussed with the Examiner, the merits of the newly amended claims proposed by applicant on January 19, 2010 in a followup telephone discussion. The Examiner indicated that, after consultation with her Supervisor, the proposed claims were in allowable form, and

that in light of the absence of the known existence of any more pertinent art by the Examiner than that cited, entry of the claim amendments reflected in the informal claim listing previously faxed to the Examiner in a formally filed Amendment after Final, reflecting the proposed claim set agreed upon as being patentable, would be granted entry.

The claim listing herein with claim amendments is an exact reproduction of the claims previously informally presented to the Examiner (with the exception that claim 2 is amended herein so as to address a formal claim objection inadvertently overlooked in the proposed claim set), and which were indicated as being patentable. Therefore, entry of the present Amendment after Final Rejection and allowance of the claims as amended is respectfully requested, as agreed upon.

While agreement has already been reached, for the purposes of assuring that applicants are fully responsive, applicants respond to the outstanding final Office Action as follows.

Applicants herein traverse and respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection of the claims and objection cited in the above-referenced Office Action.

Claims 2 and 6 are objected to due to various informalities including antecedent basis issues. The claims are amended to address the informalities. Accordingly withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Toaka et al. (WO02/066285) in view of Takada (US 4,225,178). Claim 11 is

rejected as obvious over Masuda et al. in view of Choi (US 6,557,935) under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). The applicants herein respectfully traverse these rejections.

As noted above, the Examiner has approved the proposed claim set reproduced as the claim listing herein, indicating that the claims as amended are allowable, there being nothing in the art of record which would make the claims obvious. Therefore, reconsideration of the rejection of claim 1-4 and 10 and their allowance are respectfully requested.

Regarding claim 11, as agreed upon by the Examiner, who indicated that none of the art references of record discloses the structural configuration of parent claim 1 as now amended, the Choi reference therefore fails to provide what is missing in Masuda et al., as applicable relative to parent claim 1. Thus, a *prima facie* case of obviousness cannot be established. Therefore, reconsideration of the rejection of claim 11 and its allowance are also respectfully requested.

The objection to claim 6 has been attended to, and therefore claim 6 is now believed to be in allowable condition. Claim 5 is allowed.

Claims 7-9 are objected to as being dependent from rejected base claims. The Examiner indicates that the claims contain allowable subject matter and would be allowed if put in independent form incorporating the limitations of the base and intervening claims. The claims are amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. Claims 7 and 9 are placed in independent form, with the remaining

objected to claim 8 being dependent from claim 7, as revised. Reconsideration of the objection and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested.

One (1) further independent claim in excess of three is added. Accordingly, please charge the fee of \$220 to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

Applicants respectfully request a one (1) month extension of time for responding to the Office Action. Please charge the fee of \$130 for the extension of time to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

The USPTO is hereby authorized to charge any fee(s) or fee(s) deficiency or credit any excess payment to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

In light of the foregoing, the application is now believed to be in proper form for allowance of all claims and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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